

A new species of the planthopper genus *Ommatissus* from Zaire (Homoptera: Fulgoroidea, Tropiduchidae)

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Abstract: A new species of the South Palaearctic and Palaeotropical planthopper genus *Ommatissus*, *O. bourgoini* spec. nov., is described from Zaire. It is closely related to *O. kamerunus* from Cameroon, but differs in the structures of the male genitalia, mainly in the shape of the periandrium and in the flagellum-like tip of the aedeagus.

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Introduction

The planthopper genus *Ommatissus* Fieber of the tribe Trypetimorphini is distributed in the southern parts of the Palaearctic, in the Afrotropical and in the Oriental Regions. It was recently reviewed by Asche & Wilson (1989) revealing ten species in *Ommatissus* s. str., and one species in the subgenus *Opatissus* Asche & Wilson. Some of these species are associated with palms, e.g., the “Dubas bug” *O. lybicus* Bergevin with *Phoenix dactilifera* Linnaeus, causing damage by serious infestations in the Middle East (see literature cited in Asche & Wilson, 1989). Four species were known from the Afrotropical Region: *O. alpinus* Linnavuori and *O. tumidulus* Linnavuori, both from Sudan; *O. kamerunus* Asche & Wilson from Cameroon; *O. natalensis* Asche & Wilson from South Africa. In samples from the Kivu area in Zaire a new *Ommatissus* species was found which externally very much resembles *O. kamerunus*, but differing in the configuration of the male genitalia. Bourgoïn & Huang (1990) have carried out a comparative morphological study of the male genitalia of Trypetimorphini, and provided a terminology for genital structures which is largely adopted here.

Ommatissus bourgoini spec. nov.
(figs 1-5, 7, 9)

Type material

Holotype: ♂, Ibanda, Kivu, Zaire, 1952, M. Vandelanoite. Holotype in the Musée Royal de l’Afrique Centrale Tervuren, Belgium.

Description

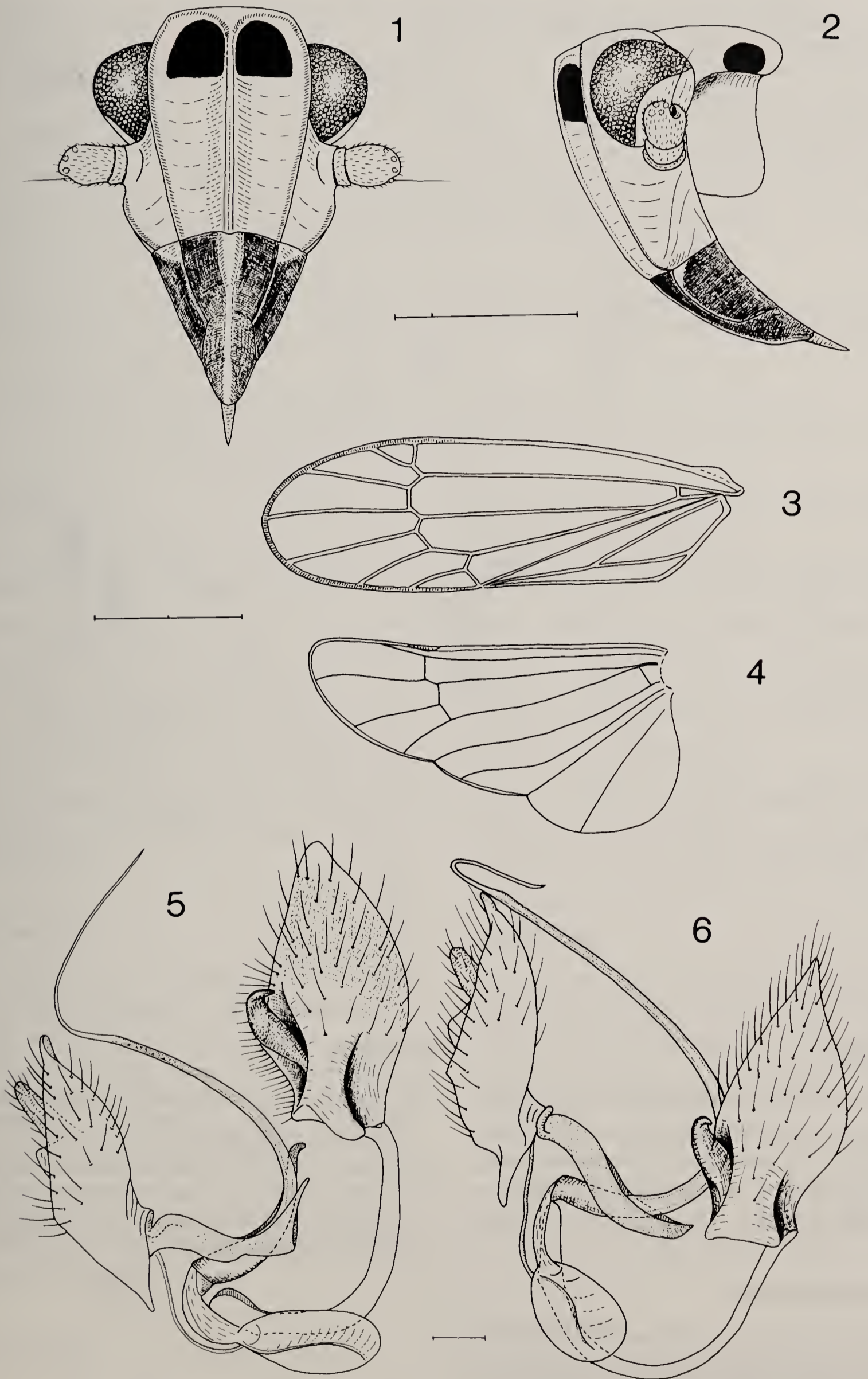
In general appearance, size, proportions, and coloration resembling *O. kamerunus*, but anteclypeus blackish brown; median knob-like callus of anteclypeus faint, almost absent.

Male genitalia: Urite X (anal segment) (fig. 5) in lateral view as in *O. kamerunus*, but slightly shorter and ventrodiscal lobe-like margin not so much projected. Gonostyles (parameres) (fig. 5) with tip less pointed than in *O. kamerunus*. Aedeagus (figs 5, 7) tubular, slender, curved dorsad, apically extended to a long recurrent flagellum; phallotreme ventrobasad of bending point of flagellum; left side basad of phallotreme with fine granules. Periandrium (figs 5, 7) ventrally on both sides projected to moderately long, ventrocaudad directed processes: a shorter distally pointed process on the left, and a longer process which is distally rounded and bent ventrad. Corpus connectivi (connective) (fig. 5) less long and extended cephalad than in *O. kamerunus*. For comparison the male genitalia of *O. kamerunus* are shown in figs 6, 8, 10.

Length: Male 4.1 mm.

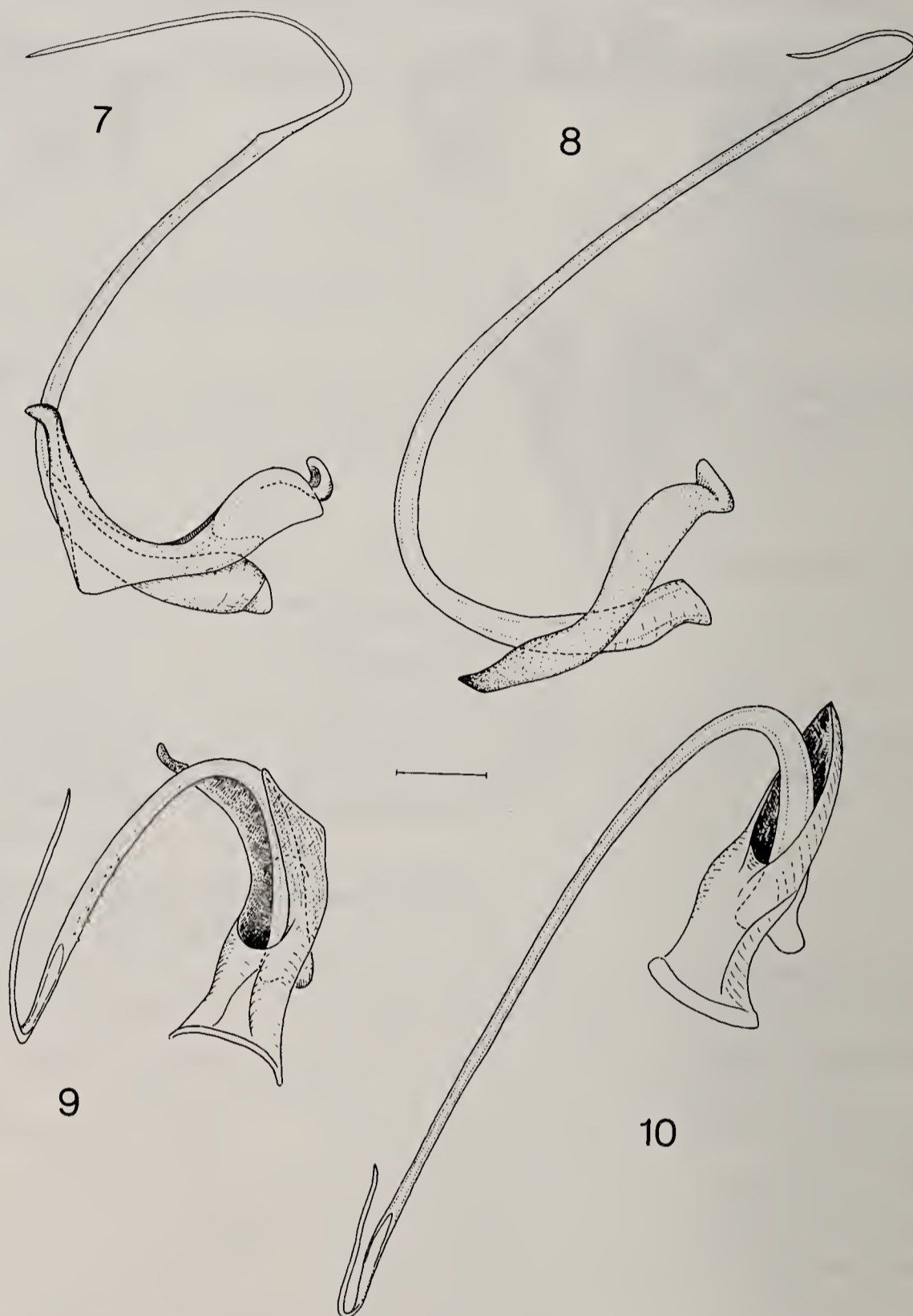
Female: unknown.

Hostplant and ecology: unknown.



Figs 1-6. *Onmatissus*. 1-5, *O. bourgoini* spec. nov., holotype ♂; 6, *O. kamerunus*, paratype ♂; 1, head, frontal aspect; 2, same, lateral aspect; 3, left tegmen; 4, left hind wing; 5, 6, male genitalia, left lateral aspect. Scale for figs 1-2: 0.5 mm; scale for figs 3-4: 1.0 mm; scale for figs 5-6: 0.1 mm.

Figs 7-10. *Ommatissus*. 7, 9, *O. bourgoini* spec. nov., holotype ♂; 8, 10. *O. kamerunus*, paratype ♂; 7, 8, aedeagus and periandrium, right lateral aspect; 9, 10, same, dorsocaudal aspect. Scale: 0.1 mm.



Etymology

This new species is named after Dr Thierry Bourgoïn, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, who has contributed greatly to our knowledge of morphology and phylogeny of Fulgoroidea.

Acknowledgements

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Literature

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